

A New Genus and Two New Species of Longhorn Beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) From Mexico and Central America

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Abstract.—A new neotropical elaphidiine genus, *Tropimerus*, is proposed and characterized. Two new species are described in the genus: *T. cyaneus* from Chiapas, Mexico, which is figured, and *T. hovorei* from El Salvador and Costa Rica.

Tropimerus Giesbert, gen. nov.

Form small, elongate. Head moderately small; eyes finely faceted; palpi subequal, terminal segments broadly triangular; frons with transverse impression with pit at each end giving rise to a long, erect seta; antennal tubercles feebly elevated; antennae slender, finely punctate and pubescent, with scattered flying hairs, length subequal to body in male, shorter in female, third segment carinate, segments 3 to 6 with short apical spine or tooth on inner side, third segment longest, 4th segment shortest, 11th longer than 10th. Pronotum nearly glabrous, subcylindrical or with sides slightly rounded, unarmed. Scutellum small, rounded at apex, finely pubescent. Elytra elongate, parallel sided, narrowed at posterior third, apices narrowly rounded to subacuminate. Underside with anterior coxal cavities rounded externally, open behind, prosternal process arcuate; mesosternum gradually sloping in front, apex notched behind, intermediate coxal cavities closed externally; abdomen of male with six sternites visible, female with five. Legs moderately short, slender; femora subclavate, apices unarmed, mesofemora with ventral and dorsal carinae; tibiae carinate; metatarsi with first segment slightly shorter than 2nd and 3rd combined.

Type Species.—*Tropimerus cyaneus* Giesbert, sp. nov.

Remarks.—*Tropimerus* bears a superficial resemblance to *Stenosphenus* Haldeman, and *Psyrassa* Pascoe, but differs from both by the presence of a sixth sclerotized abdominal sternite in the males, the distinctly carinate mesofemora, and the attenuate form of the elytral apices.

The remarkable sexual dimorphism in the abdominal segmentation presents a taxonomic character which may prove to be significant at a higher category of classification. *Tropimerus* shares this character with members of the Callichromatini, but it would be otherwise quite anomalous in that tribe. For the present, rather than establishing a new tribe for this genus alone, it seems more suitable to place *Tropimerus* in the Elaphidiini near *Stenosphenus* and *Psyrassa*.

Key to the species of *Tropimerus* Giesbert:

1. Head and pronotum black; elytra black with blue reflections. Antennae with 3rd segment $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as scape or 4th segment. Chiapas, Mexico.
T. cyaneus sp. nov.
- Head and pronotum orange; elytra black with feeble metallic reflections. Antennae with 3rd segment twice as long as scape or 4th segment. El Salvador, Costa Rica*T. hovorei* sp. nov.

Tropimerus cyaneus Giesbert, NEW SPECIES

(Fig. 1)

Male.—Form moderately small, slender, subcylindrical. Integument piceous black, blue metallic reflections on elytra and ventral surface; head, pronotum, and appendages feebly aeneous; palpi, mandibles, and tarsal claws paler. Head shining, moderately rugulose-punctate, sparsely pubescent; vertex longitudinally impressed; occiput transversely rugulose; antennae slender, nearly as long as body, scape short, 3rd segment $1\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as scape or 4th segment, remaining segments slightly longer than 4th with 11th segment somewhat longer than 10th, 3rd segment carinate, segments 3 to 5 with short apical spine, 6th segment apically dentate. Pronotum slightly longer than broad, sides feebly rounded, transversely impressed behind apex, with impression interrupted at middle, disk shallowly indented on each side at middle, shallowly impressed before base; surface shining, with base and apex micro-rugulose, disk very sparsely, finely punctate, with erect, pale hairs sparse. Scutellum rounded at apex, clothed with fine, recumbent, pale pubescence. Elytra about $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as width across humeri, parallel sided, narrowing at apical $\frac{1}{3}$ to acuminate apices; surface shining, moderately coarsely, densely punctate, with pubescence sparse, fine, and erect. Underside with a few coarse deep punctures on each side of prosternum in front of procoxae; abdomen with 5th sternite widely emarginate, 6th sternite rounded at apex; prosternum, episternal pieces, and sides of metasternum and abdominal sternites moderately densely clothed with silky, recumbent, pale golden pubescence; remainder of ventral surface shining, finely, sparsely punctate, with scattered, erect, pale hairs. Legs moderately slender, shining, with femora subclavate, mesofemora carinate; tibiae carinate. Length 7–7.5 mm.

Female.—Form similar to male. Antennae reaching about apical $\frac{1}{4}$ of elytra; prosternum lacking coarse punctures; abdomen with 5th sternite widely rounded at apex, no 6th sternite evident. Length 7–8.5 mm.

Holotype male, *allotype* (California Academy of Sciences), and 16 *paratypes* (10 male, 6 female) from MEXICO, Chiapas, Sumidero Canyon, 4000 ft., on blossoms of *Croton* sp., July 7–8, 1986 (E. Giesbert, J. Wappes). Additional paratypes include: 17 males, 8 females, same locality, June 14–24, 1987 (E. Giesbert); 3 males, same locality, June 14–20, 1987 (J. Wappes).

Tropimerus hovorei Giesbert, sp. nov.

Male.—Form moderately small, slender, subcylindrical. Integument piceous black with metallic reflections on elytra; head and prothorax orange. Head shining, moderately rugose-punctate, sparsely pubescent; vertex longitudinally impressed; occiput transversely rugulose; antennae slender, nearly as long as body, scape short,

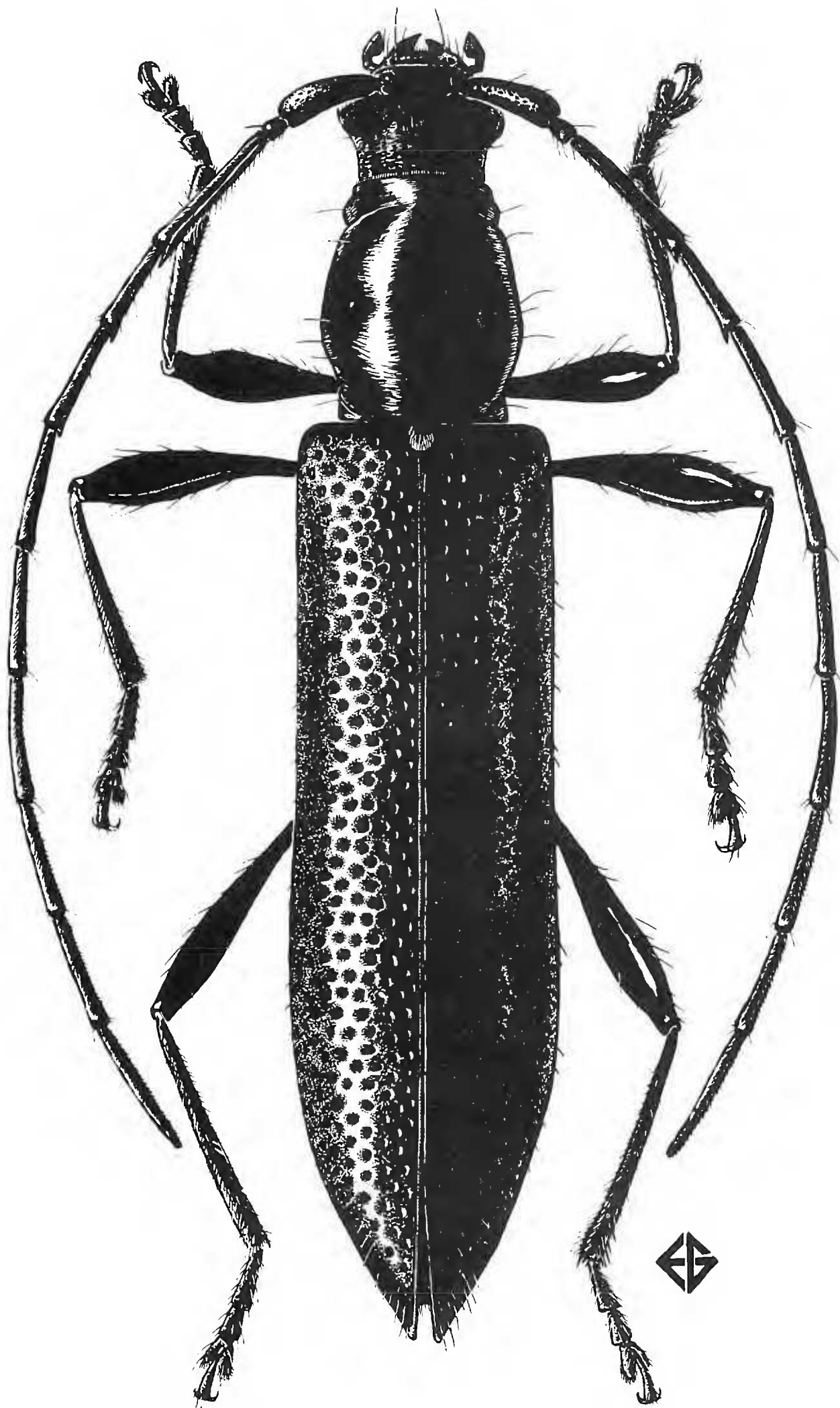


Figure 1. *Tropimerus cyaneus* Giesbert, new species; male.

3rd segment twice as long as scape or 4th segment, remaining segments longer than 4th, with 11th segment slightly longer than 10th, 3rd segment feebly carinate, segments 3 and 4 with short apical spine, segments 5 and 6 apically dentate. Pronotum longer than broad, sides somewhat rounded, transversely impressed at sides behind apex, shallowly impressed near base; surface shining, base and apex micro-rugulose, disk finely, very sparsely punctate, with erect, pale hairs sparse. Scutellum rounded at apex, clothed with fine, recumbent, pale pubescence. Elytra about $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as long as width across humeri, parallel sided, roundly tapering at apical $\frac{1}{3}$ to narrowly rounded apices; surface shining, moderately finely and densely punctate, with somewhat larger punctures scattered on disk and sublineate along suture; pubescence sparse, fine, erect. Underside with prosternum lacking coarse punctures; abdomen with 5th sternite widely emarginate, 6th sternite narrowly rounded at apex; disk of prosternum, episternal pieces, and margins of metasternum and abdominal sternites moderately densely clothed with pale, silky, recumbent pubescence. Legs moderately slender, shining, with femora subclavate, mesofemora and tibiae carinate. Length 7.25–8.5 mm.

Female.—Form similar to male. Antennae slightly shorter, attaining apical $\frac{1}{4}$ of elytra; abdomen with 5th sternite widely rounded at apex, no 6th sternite evident. Length 7.5–10 mm.

Holotype male, *allotype* (California Academy of Sciences), and 8 *paratypes* from EL SALVADOR, Quetzaltepeque, 500m., June 19, July 5, 1963 (D. Q. Cavagnaro, M. E. Erwin). 54 additional *paratypes* (29 males, 25 females) from COSTA RICA, Puntarenas prov., 6 km S. Santa Elena, on blossoms of *Croton* sp., May 23, 1985 (F. Hovore), May 24–28, 1987 (E. Giesbert), June 7–8, 1987 (F. Hovore).

Remarks.—*Tropimerus hovorei* differs from *T. cyaneus* by the orange head and pronotum, relatively longer 3rd antennal segment, the finer elytral punctures, as well as by the more southeastern range.

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